

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A scanner comprising:

a casing;

a scanning module installed inside the casing for scanning a document and generating corresponding image data;

a control unit installed in the casing, the control unit comprising at least a memory for storing a control program and the image data generated from the scanning module, and a processor for executing the control program to control the operations of the scanner; and

an output port installed on the casing and electrically connected to the control unit for connecting to a portable storage device disposed outside the casing of the scanner, the portable storage device not being a computer, wherein the scanner acts as a master device and treats the portable storage device as a slave device;

wherein when the scanning module finishes scanning a document, the control unit converts the image data of the document according to the type of the portable storage device that is connected to the output port and then directly transmits the image data converted by the control unit to the portable storage device, wherein the image data transmission is controlled only by the control unit without the need of a host to control image data transmission.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The scanner of claim 1 wherein ~~the output port~~ the scanner further comprises a printer port installed on the casing and electrically connected to the control unit for connecting is connected to a printer, and when the scanning module finishes scanning a document, the control unit prints out the image data of the document via the printer.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The scanner of claim 2 wherein the control program first identifies the type of the portable storage device connected to the output port, and then

controls the transmission of the image data of the document according to the said type.

Claim 4 (original): The scanner of claim 1 wherein the scanner further comprises a connecting port installed on the casing and electrically connected to the control unit for connecting to a computer, and when the scanning module finishes scanning the document, the control unit transmits the image data of the document to the computer for further processing via the connecting port.

Claim 5 (cancelled).

Claim 6 (currently amended): A scanner comprising:

a casing;

a scanning module installed inside the casing for scanning a document and generating corresponding image data;

a control unit installed in the casing, the control unit comprising at least a memory for storing a control program and the image data generated from the scanning module, and a processor for executing the control program to control the operations of the scanner;

an output port installed on the casing and electrically connected to the control unit for connecting to an external portable storage device, the external portable storage device not being a computer, wherein the scanner acts as a master device and treats the external portable storage device as a slave device; and

a printer port electrically connected to the control unit for connecting to an external printer;

wherein when the scanning module finishes scanning a document, the control unit converts the image data of the document and then directly transmits the image data converted by the control unit to the external portable storage device via the output port, wherein the image data transmission is controlled only by the control unit ~~without the need of a host to control image data transmission~~, or converts the image data of the document and then transmits the image data converted by the

control unit to the printer via the printer port for printing.

Claim 7 (original): The scanner of claim 6 wherein the scanner further comprises a connecting port installed on the casing and electrically connected to the control unit for connecting to a computer, and when the scanning module finishes scanning the document, the control unit transmits the image data of the document to the computer for further processing via the connecting port.

Claim 8 (cancelled).

Claim 9 (previously presented): The scanner of claim 1 wherein the portable storage device is a standalone disk drive.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The scanner of claim 9 wherein the portable storage device is a hard disk drive.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The scanner of claim 9 wherein the portable storage device is a floppy disk drive.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The scanner of claim 9 wherein the portable storage device is a writable optical disk drive.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The scanner of claim 6 wherein the external portable storage device is a standalone disk drive.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The scanner of claim 13 wherein the external portable storage device is a hard disk drive.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The scanner of claim 13 wherein the external portable storage device is a floppy disk drive.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The scanner of claim 13 wherein the external portable storage device is a writable optical disk drive.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A scanning system comprising:

a portable storage device which is not a computer; and

a scanner, the scanner comprising:

a casing;

a scanning module installed inside the casing for scanning a document and generating corresponding image data;

a control unit installed in the casing, the control unit comprising at least a memory for storing a control program and the image data generated from the scanning module, and a processor for executing the control program to control the operations of the scanner; and

an output port installed on the casing and electrically connected to the control unit for connecting to the portable storage device disposed outside the casing of the scanner, wherein the scanner acts as a master device and treats the portable storage device as a slave device;

wherein when the scanning module finishes scanning a document, the control unit converts the image data of the document according to the type of the portable storage device that is connected to the output port and then directly transmits the image data converted by the control unit to the portable storage device, wherein the image data transmission is controlled only by the control unit ~~without the need of a host to control image data transmission.~~

Claim 18 (previously presented): The scanning system of claim 17 wherein the portable storage device is a standalone disk drive.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The scanning system of claim 18 wherein the portable storage device is a hard disk drive.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The scanning system of claim 18 wherein the portable storage device is a floppy disk drive.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The scanning system of claim 18 wherein the portable storage device is a writable optical disk drive.